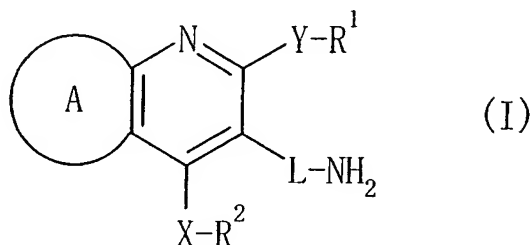


Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A compound represented by the formula



wherein

ring A is an optionally substituted 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring;

R¹ and R² are the same or different and each is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

X and Y are the same or different and each is a bond, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂- or -NR³ (R³ is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group); and

L is a divalent hydrocarbon group,

or a salt thereof.

2. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein the 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring for ring A is a benzene ring.

3. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein the ring A is a 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from

(1) a halogen atom;

- (2) a nitro group;
- (3) a cyano group;
- (4) an alkylendioxy group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms;
- (5) an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms or an alkenyl group having 2 to 10 carbon atoms, each optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, a carbamoyl group, a cyano group, an amino group, an alkylcarbonylamino group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, an alkoxycarbonylamino group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms and an alkylsulfonylamino group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms;
- (6) an optionally substituted hydroxy group;
- (7) an acyl group;
- (8) an optionally substituted amino group;
- (9) an optionally substituted cycloalkyl group having 3 to 10 carbon atoms;
- (10) an aryl group having 6 to 14 carbon atoms;
- (11) an optionally substituted thiol group;
- (12) an optionally substituted heterocyclic group; and
- (13) an amidino group.

4. **(Original)** The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 is an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 10 carbon atoms.

5. **(Original)** The compound of claim 1, wherein X is a bond.

6. **(Original)** The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is a bond.

7. **(Original)** The compound of claim 1, wherein the divalent hydrocarbon group denoted by L is an alkylene group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

8. **(Original)** The compound of claim 1, wherein R^2 is an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon

atoms, an aryl group having 6 to 14 carbon atoms or an alkyl group having 7 to 13 carbon atoms, each optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atom, hydroxy group, nitro group, amino group, optionally halogenated alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, aromatic heterocyclic group and cycloalkyl group having 3 to 10 carbon atoms.

9. (Original) The compound of claim 1, which is (2E)-3-[3-(aminomethyl)-2-isobutyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)quinolin-6-yl]acrylamide;

5-{[3-(aminomethyl)-2-isobutyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)quinolin-6-yl]oxy}pentanoic acid;

4-[3-(aminomethyl)-2-isobutyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)quinolin-6-yl]piperazin-2-one;

1-[3-(aminomethyl)-2-isobutyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)quinolin-6-yl]piperazine-2,5-dione;

or a salt thereof.

10. (Original) A pharmaceutical agent comprising a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof.

11. (Original) The pharmaceutical agent of claim 10, which is a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of diabetes.

12. (Original) The pharmaceutical agent of claim 10, which is a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of diabetic complications.

13. (Original) The pharmaceutical agent of claim 10, which is a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of impaired glucose tolerance.

14. (Original) The pharmaceutical agent of claim 10, which is a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of obesity.

15. (Original) A peptidase inhibitor comprising a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof.

16. (Original) The inhibitor of claim 15, wherein the peptidase is dipeptidyl dipeptidase IV.

17. (Original) A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of diabetes in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

18. (Original) A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of diabetic complications in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

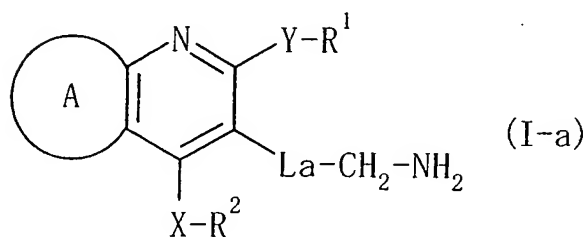
19. (Original) A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of impaired glucose tolerance in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

20. (Original) A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of obesity in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

21. (Original) A method for inhibiting peptidase in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

22-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Original) A method of producing a compound represented by the formula



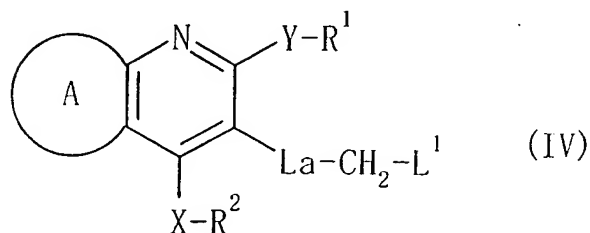
wherein

ring A is an optionally substituted 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring;

R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

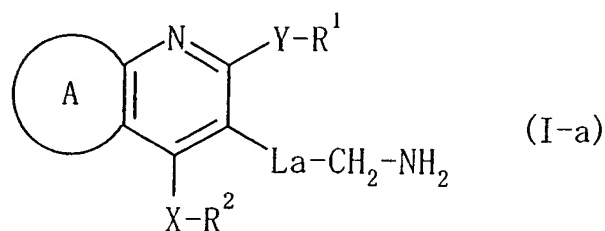
X and Y are the same or different and each is a bond, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂- or -NR³- (R³ is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group);

La is a bond or a divalent hydrocarbon group, or a salt thereof, which comprises reacting a compound represented by the formula



wherein L¹ is a leaving group, and other symbols are as defined above, or a salt thereof with an aminating agent.

28. (Original) A method of producing a compound represented by the formula

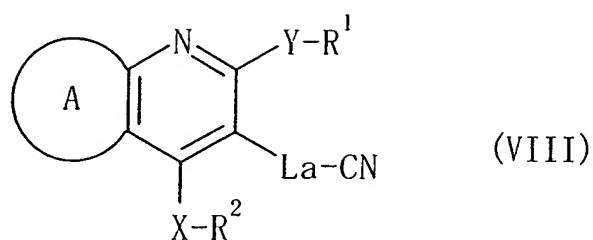


wherein

ring A is an optionally substituted 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring;

R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or

an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;
 X and Y are the same or different and each is a bond,
 -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂- or -NR³- (R³ is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group);
 La is a bond or a divalent hydrocarbon group,
 or a salt thereof, which comprises subjecting a compound represented by the formula



wherein the symbols in the formula are as defined above, or a salt thereof to reduction reaction.